REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-16, 21-24 are pending. Non-elected claims 17-20 have been cancelled, without prejudice. Claims 21-24 are newly added, and claims 4-5, 7, 14 and 16 are amended to correct the informalities identified by the Examiner. Support for the amendments can be found at, e.g., page 3, line 35 to page 6, line 30 of the specification (English translation) and the originally filed claims 4, 5, 7, 14, and 16. No new matter has been added. Entry of the present amendments and reconsideration of the present application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Specification

The specification is objected to because the Abstract contains more than 150 words and the phrase "figure 1" improperly appears at the end of the Abstract. The Abstract has now been suitably revised. Withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 5, 7, 14, and 16 are objected to because of various informalities identified by the Examiner. Claims 5, 7, 14, and 16 have been suitably corrected to eliminate the informalities. Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 4, 5 and 16 are rejected as being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph because a broad limitation and a preferable range are recited in the same claim. Applicants have suitably amended claims 4, 5 and 16 by moving the preferable range from these claims to new claims 21-24, respectively. Withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, and 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wang et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0084745). Applicants respectfully traverse. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

The present invention provides a light source having at least one LED for emitting a primary radiation and at least one luminescence conversion body for converting the primary radiation into a secondary radiation. The luminescence conversion body is a polycrystalline ceramic body which itself acts partly or completely as luminescent material by virtue of at least part of the base material which forms the ceramic body being activated by a dopant. See, e.g., claim 1. A ceramic body is one body formed (typically sintered) together from individual crystallites, rather than discrete particles dispersed in a medium such as an epoxy resin (see, e.g., page 2, lines 1-33; page 4, lines 4-21 and 30-35 of the specification).

In contrast, Wang discloses a light emitting diode with light conversion by a dielectric phosphor powder (DPP). The DPP is made of a mixture of nearly spherical dielectric particles with crystalline phosphor particles embedded into the epoxy (see, e.g., the abstract or page 3, paragraph 0031 referred to by the Examiner). Nowhere in the disclosure does Wang disclose a polycrystalline ceramic body. Therefore, neither claim 1 nor any of claims 2, 4-7, and 12-16, each of which depends from claim 1 directly or indirectly, is anticipated by Wang under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Thus, withdrawal of the anticipation rejections over Wang is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 and 6-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lowery (U.S. Patent No. 6,504,301). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Lowery discloses a non-incandesecent lightbulb package comprising a light source, a nonconformal wavelength converter comprising a base material (such as silicone rubber and polycarbonate) and a fluorescent material being contained in the base material. As explained at col. 6, lines 6-32, which is also referred to by the Examiner, the phosphor material is dispersed in a fluorescent plate which can be made of soft, optically clear, silicone rubber or other transparent materials. While disclosing phosphor grains dispersed in a medium, nowhere in the disclosure does Lowery disclose the use of a polycrystalline ceramic body. It is noted that YAG:ce might be usable for both a fluorescent plate dispersed with phosphor particles and a ceramic body. However, the mere fact that the cited reference discloses the use of YAG:Ge does not necessarily mean that ceramic material is used therein. Therefore, neither claim 1 nor any of claims 6-16, each of which depends from claim 1, is anticipated by Lowery. Withdrawal of the anticipation rejections in view of Lowery is, thus, respectfully requested.

Based on the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the present application has been placed in condition of allowance. Early and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,
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